

# express



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## Friday

AUGUST 8, 2003

### Ain't Just a River

Cases of West Nile virus triple across the country in the last week

**NATION** | 4

### Baghdad Blast

A powerful car bomb destroys the Jordanian embassy, killing at least 10

**WORLD** | 5



A U.S. soldier tries to hold back Iraqis who want to get closer to the wreckage.

### Cracking Down

Metro gets tough on car theft and break-ins in its parking lots

**REGION** | 7

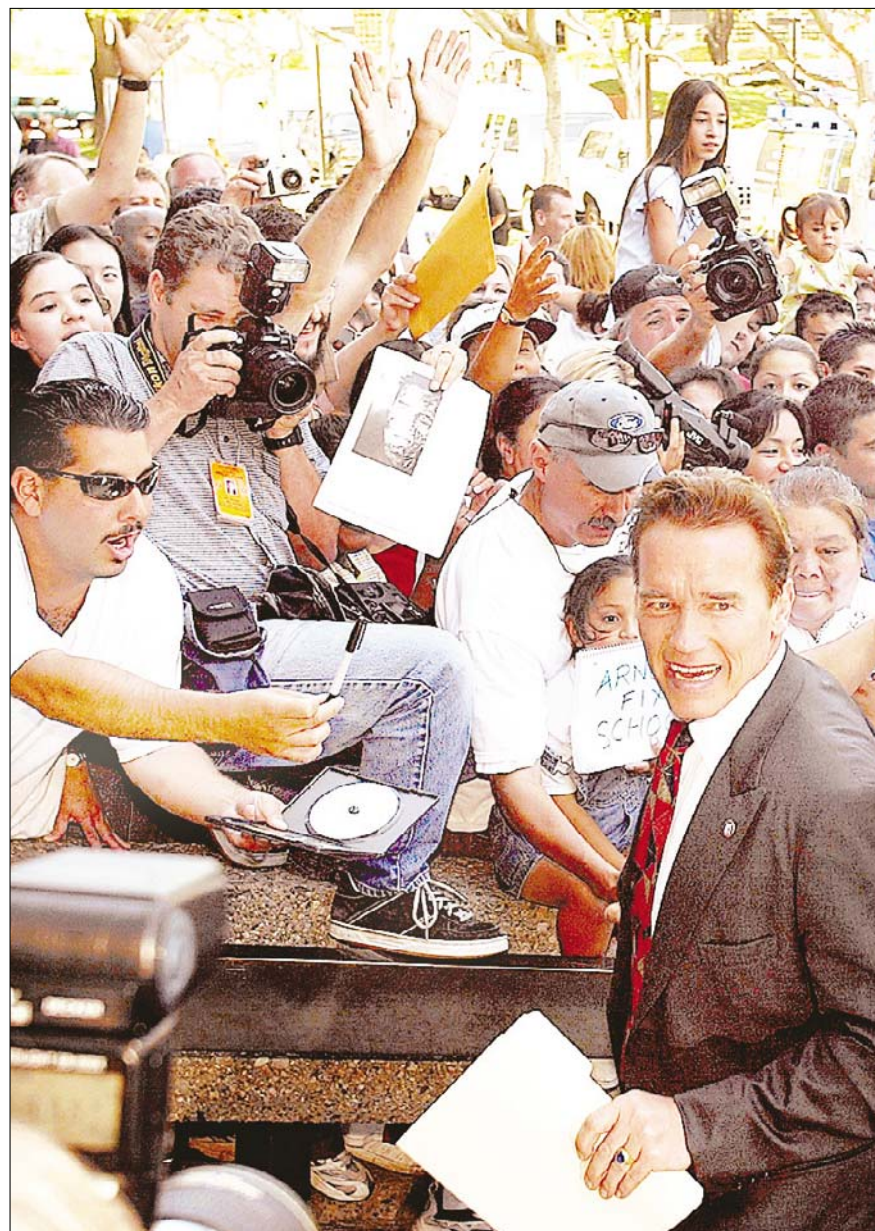
### Weather > Thunderstorms



**86 | 72**

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE TWO

### CALIFORNIA RECALL | UNDER THE BIG TOP



**CARNIVAL EMCEE:** Arnold Schwarzenegger is met by throngs of media and fans at the Los Angeles County Registrar's office, where he filed papers Thursday declaring his candidacy for governor of California. ♦ **The California Recall:** Who's in, who's out, who's the most famous, page 3.

## Hijackers Downed Flight 93

Report indicates passengers did not breach cockpit

WASHINGTON | U.S. investigators now believe that a hijacker aboard United Airlines Flight 93 instructed terrorist-pilot Ziad Jarrah to crash the jetliner into a field in Pennsylvania because of a passenger uprising.

This theory, based on the government's analysis of cockpit recordings, discounts the popular perception of insurgent passengers grappling with terrorists to seize the plane's controls.

The government's findings — laid out deep within the report on the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that was sent to Congress last month — aim to resolve the enduring mystery.



Jarrah

The FBI strenuously maintains that its analysis does not diminish the heroism of passengers who — with the words "Let's roll" — apparently took over the cockpit.

Citing transcripts of the still-secret cockpit recordings, FBI Director Robert Mueller told congressional investigators that, minutes before Flight 93 hit the ground, one of the hijackers "advised Jarrah to crash the plane and end the passengers' attempt to retake the airplane."

While the FBI believes it will never know for sure, Mueller presented this information as the FBI's leading theory, an anonymous official told the Associated Press. TED BRIDIS (AP)

**Between Two Worlds:** Kate Hudson and Naomi Watts in a romantically confusing Paris in "Le Divorce"; "Freaky Friday" is better than it has to be; Marlee Matlin is mysteriously



pregnant. Also | Meet the Redskins Cheerleaders, Tracey Ullman wanted for impersonation, and get out — out, we say! — with help from the Going Out Gurus. **ENTERTAINMENT** | 11-13

# EyeOpeners

## POLITICS Butt Seriously ...

A man attempting to hike naked across Britain says he's protesting his country's indecency laws. The man, now identified as Steve Gough, a 44-year-old, unemployed truck driver, had been spotted on nature trails in nothing but his boots, a hat, a knapsack and an all-over tan. He's been arrested five times for his efforts. "Every pioneer is criticized for putting their head above the parapet, but this is something I believe in," Gough told The Times of London Thursday. (EXPRESS)



PHIL RIGBY/AP/CUMBRIAN NEWSPAPERS

## CELEBRATIONS Vigor Mortis

Peggy McCormally didn't want her family to throw her an 80th birthday bash. But she did request a celebration in her honor: a traditional Irish wake. The Iowa resident joked that by attending her own wake she could mull whether to change her will. "Mourners" gathered Saturday. (AP)

### HEARSAY | BANNED

"It's not a big deal because the meetings still go on."

—ELBRA WEDGEWORTH  
DENVER CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT, ON THE DECISION TO BAR THE AIRING OF A MEETING BECAUSE A COUNCILWOMAN DIDN'T WANT TO BE SHOWN EATING A CINNAMON ROLL

## HEALTH Break a Leg

Beijing drama student Jiao Xiaoyu is taking time out from her studies to reach a lofty personal goal. The nearly 5-foot-tall 19-year-old has begun leg extension surgery, a popular procedure in a society where high-demand jobs and schools have begun instituting height requirements. Jiao says she hopes to grow at least 3.5 inches in the next four months—all of which she'll spend in the hospital. (EXPRESS)



WOLFF/AP/GETTY IMAGES

## RELATIONSHIPS Not Tonight, I've Got a Meeting

A British survey says men daydream about sex but would rather sleep than put those thoughts into practice. The survey, sponsored by the vitamin com-

pany Berocca, said one in five men admitted they thought about sex within a minute of the start of a business meeting, the BBC reported Thursday. But most men, if given an extra hour in bed, would rather spend it sleeping than having sex. (EXPRESS)

## SCIENCE Finding Frosty

A Japanese expedition equipped with sensor-activated cameras is heading to the Himalayas hoping to track down the abominable snowman. Seven climbers will spend six weeks in Nepal trying to capture images of

the legendary humanlike creature also known as the yeti. The expedition, which leaves Sunday, plans to climb some 10,000 feet up a mountain to try and "ambush" the elusive creature by setting up the motion-triggered cameras and snapping its picture. (AP)

### 5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

All forecasts provided by AccuWeather.com ©2003

Today  
Hi 86  
Lo 72



Sat.  
Hi 86  
Lo 71



Sun.  
Hi 87  
Lo 71



Mon.  
Hi 88  
Lo 71



Tues.  
Hi 87  
Lo 71



UV Index (for solar noon)  
4 out of 10, low

Air Quality Index (AQI)  
AQI Today: Good

Pollen Index (Yesterday)  
Reading: 2. Main offender: Grass

Today, variably cloudy, warm; afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. High 86. Low 72. Wind south 6-12 mph. Saturday, variably cloudy, humid, thundershowers possible.



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## In Brief

## AUSTIN

**Lawsuits Filed in State Redistricting Battle**

Eleven Senate Democrats in out-of-state exile challenged Gov. Rick Perry's authority to call the current special legislative session, and the governor later made his own court filing, asking the Texas Supreme Court to order the lawmakers home. The Democrats, who are holed up in a New Mexico hotel, left the state to stop the Senate from passing a redistricting bill. (AP)

## RAVENNA, OHIO

**Woman Tried for Driving While Breast-Feeding**

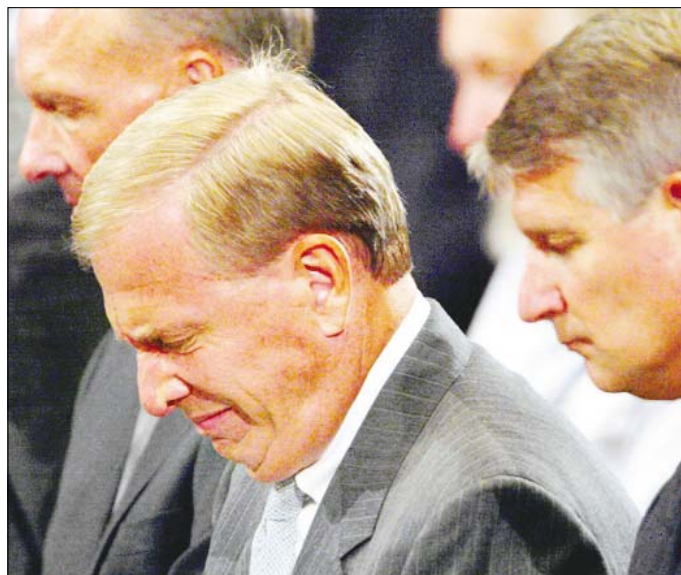
A woman on trial for breast-feeding her baby while driving on the Ohio Turnpike testified Thursday that she nursed behind the wheel because her husband told her to. Catherine Donkers, 29, said she stopped at a highway rest stop May 8 to feed her 7-month-old daughter, but realized the baby was still hungry after she got back on the road. She said she called her husband, who told her to feed the baby while driving. Donkers faces several misdemeanor charges. (AP)

## HOUSTON

**Salmonella in Pea Salad Caused Inmate Illnesses**

Salmonella in pea salad sickened more than 600 inmates at the Darrington Unit prison last month, authorities said. The Texas Department of Health said Thursday the contamination likely resulted when eggs from the prison's chicken flock were sent in for preparation without being cleaned. (AP)

## IN MEMORIAM | LIFE CUT SHORT



DAMON WINTER/AP

**A PRIVATE MOMENT:** Baylor basketball coach Dave Bliss bows his head in prayer during a memorial for Patrick Dennehy at the Jubilee Christian Center in San Jose, Calif., Thursday. Dennehy's roommate Carlton Dotson stands charged with killing the former Baylor University basketball player.

## Episcopalians Consider Allowing Gay Blessings

MINNEAPOLIS | Episcopal leaders said Thursday they rejected a proposal to draft standard language for blessing same-sex couples partly out of concern for church unity following the contentious confirmation of their first openly gay bishop.

The House of Bishops overwhelmingly approved a watered-down statement recognizing that same-sex unions are being blessed in local dioceses. The measure requires final approval from the House of Deputies, a legislative body composed of lay people and clergy.

Debate was set for Thursday.

Some gay rights advocates still interpreted the recognition as an important, if small, victory. But bishops involved in approving the statement Wednesday said it is not an endorsement of same-sex unions.

Wednesday's vote came even as conservatives continued to protest the confirmation of the Rev. V. Gene Robinson — an act that gay advocates had hoped would build momentum toward approval for an official ceremony. RACHEL ZOLL (AP)

## Stars Are Out in California Recall

### Schwarzenegger joins growing list of celebs, governor wanna-bes

BERKELEY, CALIF. | What began as yet another political novelty from the nation's most populous state has morphed into a spectacle remarkable even by California standards.

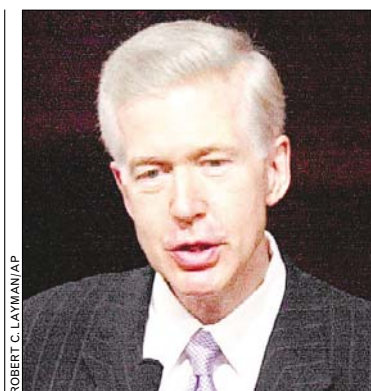
With everyone from Arnold Schwarzenegger to porn prince Larry Flynt jumping into the race to recall beleaguered Gov. Gray Davis, the reality TV show that has commandeered California politics has turned permanently, seriously weird.

"Sadly," Sen. Dianne Feinstein said Wednesday as she ruled out running, California is "going to be engaged in an election that is becoming more and more like a carnival every day."

And that was before Schwarzenegger shocked even his own closest political advisers by announcing on "The Tonight Show" that he was getting in the race.

It's hard to look at California's election slate without giggling — or panicking.

Under the recall law, drafted during a wave of populism in 1911, it takes only \$3,500 and signatures



Candidates — stars or not — are lining up to face Calif. Governor Gray Davis.

from 65 voters to run. The election is set for Oct. 7, but a slew of court challenges could delay or even call the whole thing off.

Potential candidates so far include a lady selling thong underwear and a motorcyclist who hopes to legalize pet ferrets.

And the 99 Cents Only stores in Los Angeles are running a promotion promising to pay the filing fee and gather signatures for any 99-year-old who'd love to be gov.

"It's kind of like a freak show," said Timothy Esau, a fruit inspector in Fresno who considers the spectacle of Schwarzenegger, Flynt and hundreds of political wanna-bes taking out filing papers "a bit embarrassing." MICHELLE LOCKE (AP)



**BY THE NUMBERS:** Lance Cpl. Antoine D. Boykins, who admitted to cutting suspension lines on I3 Camp Lejeune, N.C., parachutes, was sentenced Thursday to 20 years in prison, stripped of military pay and discharged.

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# Nation

## West Nile Cases Triple in Week

Colorado hardest hit as disease moves west

ATLANTA | The number of West Nile virus cases has tripled since last week and will likely top last year's record total, a U.S. health official said Thursday in the latest warning on the disease.

"The numbers are starting to change very, very quickly," said Dr. Julie Gerberding, head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "That is very concerning."

Health officials had expected the disease to spread this year to all corners of the country, invading Western states previously unscathed. But they appeared somewhat surprised at its speed.

West Nile virus rarely kills, but about 1 in 150 people who get it will develop its potentially deadly encephalitis or meningitis. Most often, it affects the elderly. Of the

seven people who have died this year, the youngest was 68.

The CDC is urging people in the 16 states where the virus has appeared to use mosquito repellent, cover arms and legs with clothing and avoid early morning and evening hours when mosquitoes are most active. DANIEL YEE (AP)

### SPREADING WESTWARD

**This year's West Nile outbreak could surpass the record number of cases last year, officials say:**

**164** cases confirmed by the CDC Thursday, up from only 59 cases a week ago

**16** states reporting infections

**72** cases in Colorado confirmed

by the CDC, although the state

says it has reported 154 cases

**112** cases by this point last year

**4,156** human cases reported

last year overall, 284 deaths

Online: West Nile facts and what you can do to reduce your risk at the Centers for Disease Control Web site: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

### ENVIRONMENT | TAMING THE RIVER



**ON THE MISSOURI:** Capt. Steve Engemann reads a chart as he prepares dredge the Missouri River near Hermann, Mo., last week. Crews will lower the river's water levels for three days next week to comply with a court ruling seeking to protect endangered birds and fish.

### HEARSAY | FIGHTING WORDS



"Millions of Americans now share a feeling that something pretty basic has gone wrong in our country."

— FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

BLASTING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY ON IRAQ, THE ECONOMY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER ISSUES AT A SPEECH AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

## Pilots Not Armed Yet

TSA blamed for delay in allowing guns in airline cockpits

WASHINGTON | Fewer than 100 pilots were certified to carry guns on commercial flights in the eight months after Congress approved the idea, and pilots are blaming the slow pace on the Transportation Security Administration.

The pilots say that with the TSA freezing hiring in the air marshal program and the government warning al Qaeda may try more hijackings, it's more important than ever to get weapons in the cockpit.

The first 44 pilots to complete the five-day weapons training program graduated on April 19 and began flying with weapons. The second class finished in July.

Rep. John Mica, R-Fla., chairman of the House aviation subcommittee, said he's angry that the TSA is moving at "a snail's pace."

TSA spokesman Robert Johnson said "hundreds" of pilots ready to get certified once summer is over.

LESLIE MILLER (AP)

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## In Brief

## CUBA

**Rebel Leader Returns From Exile, Starts Opposition**

Eloy Gutierrez-Menoyo, a rebel leader in the Cuban revolution who long ago broke with Fidel Castro's government and served 22 years in prison, said Thursday he was returning from exile to operate an opposition movement. Gutierrez-Menoyo, who traveled to Cuba several weeks ago for a family vacation, said he would stay to promote democracy. (AP)

## PERU

**New Eyewitness Testimony Incriminates Fujimori**

Prosecutors have new eyewitness testimony linking President Alberto Fujimori to a paramilitary death squad in what appears to be the most incriminating evidence to date against the self-exiled leader, a news report said Thursday. The witness, a former member of the Colina Group death squad, testified that Fujimori expressed his anger to group members, including the witness, for killing an 8-year-old boy during a 1991 raid, the Peru 21 newspaper reported. (AP)



Alberto Fujimori

## GEORGIA

**Hunt for Radioactive Materials to Continue**

Georgian specialists are preparing to continue a U.N.-sanctioned search in this former Soviet republic for missing electrical generators containing radioactive materials, authorities said Thursday. While each of the devices contains only small amounts of the radioisotope, there could be enough for a so-called "dirty bomb" if a number of generators were stripped of the material, nuclear experts warned. (AP)

## IRELAND

**Real IRA Leader Gets 20 Years for Bomb Attack**

The convicted leader of a dissident Irish Republican Army faction was sentenced to 20 years in prison Thursday for directing terrorism. Michael McKevitt, 53, is the alleged leader of the Real IRA, which was involved in the deadliest single explosion in three decades of violence. (AP)

# Car Bomb Blasts Jordan Embassy

At least 11 are killed in deadliest attack on civilian target to date

BAGHDAD | A car bomb shattered a street outside the walled Jordanian Embassy on Thursday, killing at least 11 people — including two children — and raising concerns that Iraq's violence could be broadening from resistance to the U.S. occupation toward a terrorist insurgency.

More than 50 people were wounded by the explosion, the deadliest attack on a non-military target since Baghdad fell to American forces April 9. The blast set cars on

fire, flung the hulk of one vehicle onto a rooftop and broke windows hundreds of yards away.

Elsewhere in Baghdad, gunmen attacked a U.S. patrol on a busy shopping street, sparking a fierce hours-long gunbattle between Iraqis with rocket-propelled grenades and assault rifles and Americans with armored Bradley fighting vehicles.

Two U.S. soldiers were reported killed Wednesday night in another Baghdad firefight — the first American combat deaths since Friday. Attacks have now killed 55 U.S. soldiers since May 1, when President Bush declared an end to major combat. ANDREW ENGLAND (AP)



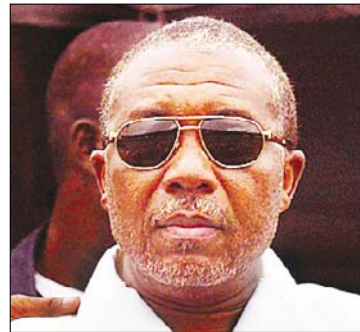
**REMAINS OF A VIOLENT DAY:** An Iraqi boy lifts a woman's scarf in a bombed-out car outside the Jordanian Embassy. A massive car bomb exploded outside the embassy in Baghdad Thursday, killing at least 11 people and wounding many more. It was the deadliest attack on a non-military target since the war began.

## Liberia's Taylor Names Successor

Former warlord says he will cede power to deputy on Monday

MONROVIA, LIBERIA | President Charles Taylor submitted his resignation and named his vice president to take over the reins of the embattled government Thursday as throngs cheered the first West African peacekeepers to enter the besieged capital.

Vice President Moses Blah said the handover is planned for Monday, but rebel leaders warned they will



President Charles Taylor resigned.

not accept any ally of Taylor.

Outside Monrovia, peacekeepers reportedly seized a new weapons

shipment from Libya that apparently was destined for government forces in violation of a U.N. arms embargo.

Rebels and government troops are fighting in several parts of the country, and a two-month battle over Monrovia has killed hundreds of civilians and left the 1.3 million people crowded into the divided city short of food and water.

West African leaders have promised to build up a 3,250-soldier peace force that will eventually be replaced by a broader U.N. force. ALEXANDRA ZAVIS (AP)

## Report: Plan to Lure Settlers on Tap

JERUSALEM | Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon backs a \$95 million plan to bring more settlers to the West Bank with offers of free housing and education grants, an Israeli newspaper reported Thursday. The prime minister's office declined comment on the report in the Maariv daily.

Maariv reported that the settlement plan, which has not yet been approved by the Cabinet, would pro-

vide free housing to young couples promising to live in Jordan Valley for at least four years and would underwrite their college tuition.

Before the outbreak of Israeli-Palestinian violence in September 2000, about 3,000 Jews lived in Jordan Valley settlements. Their number has fallen by an estimated 15 percent as a result of frequent shooting incidents and a stagnant economy. (AP)

## Bali Bomber Gets Death Sentence

BALI | An Indonesian court handed down its first verdict in last year's deadly Bali bombings Thursday, sentencing an Islamic militant to die by firing squad. The Oct. 12 Bali bombings, which killed 202 people, were the deadliest terrorist strikes since the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

The sentence raised fears of revenge attacks by militants. On Tuesday, a car bomb exploded at the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, killing 10 and wounding 150. (AP)

## Taliban Attack Kills 6

Bold assault in south Afghanistan signals new, brasher methods

KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN | In one of the most brazen and well-organized attacks in recent months, 40 suspected Taliban fighters armed with assault rifles shot up a government office in southern Afghanistan, killing six Afghan soldiers and a driver for a U.S. aid organization.

The violence followed a series of other attacks on foreign troops, government forces and aid workers, hampering agencies that are trying to rebuild the impoverished, war-shattered country.

The fighters launched their assault from four vehicles, police said — a relatively bold strategy. Usually such attacks are by smaller, less-conspicuous groups traveling on foot, able to easily stash weapons or fade into crowds.

The Taliban, ousted by U.S.-led forces in late 2001, have been waging a hit-and-run guerrilla war in the south and east of the country for over a year. NOOR KHAN (AP)



**BY THE NUMBERS:** More than 63,000 people — mostly civilians — have died since 1989 in an Islamic insurgency in Jammu-Kashmir, the only Muslim-majority state in predominantly Hindu India. (AP)

# World

## Rwanda Court In Flux

UNITED NATIONS | Rwanda has endorsed the U.N. chief's proposal to add a second top war crimes prosecutor to handle cases stemming from the 1994 genocide in the African nation, saying it has long maintained the responsibilities are too vast for just one person.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan reiterated Thursday that he wants the current chief prosecutor, Carla Del Ponte, to concentrate on cases stemming from the Balkan wars of the early 1990s, with a new prosecutor named for Rwanda.

Del Ponte is scheduled to brief the Security Council on Friday on her work as head of both the Rwanda and former Yugoslav tribunals. The council is expected to make a decision before Del Ponte's four-year contract expires on Sept. 15.

Many argue that the Rwandan tribunal has not made as much progress as the Yugoslav tribunal. According to U.N. diplomats, the council is divided on Del Ponte's future. Suggestions range from giving her a new four-year contract to continue in charge of the Rwandan and Yugoslav tribunals, as Mexico and Germany reportedly favor, to offering her just the Yugoslav tribunal, as the United States and Britain advocate. EDITH M. LEDERER (AP)

✦ **For More:** The website for the U.N.'s International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda can be found at [www.ict.rw](http://www.ict.rw).

INDIA | HEAVE HO



**OFF TO THE RACES:** Oarsmen row a snakeboat through a backwater during a practice session at Kumarakom in the southern India state of Kerala on Thursday. Snakeboats of various clubs are practicing in the backwaters of Kerala for the Nehru boat race scheduled to be held on Aug. 9.

## In Iran, Student Protesters Released

TEHRAN | The hard-line Iranian judiciary freed nine students who were jailed in June after large street protests against the ruling Islamic establishment, the official news agency reported Thursday.

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei ordered the Tehran prosecutor's office to release the

nine, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

It was not known exactly how many students were still in jail. Judiciary officials have said about 4,000 people were arrested during and after the protests but that about half of them were released soon afterward. (AP)

## Girls Puff As Much As Boys, Study Finds

CDC, WHO report says gender gap is closing worldwide

HELSINKI, FINLAND | Government anti-tobacco campaigns should target girls and women because surveys show teenage girls are now smoking almost as much as boys in many nations, officials told an international conference Thursday.

A report released at the 12th World Conference on Tobacco found that the gender gap in tobacco consumption among young people is closing.

The report said there were no significant differences between cigarette smoking rates of 13- to 15-year-olds in more than half of the 150 countries surveyed.

The increase in young girls' tobacco use was attributed mainly to marketing aimed at women in

which the tobacco industry portrays smoking as fashionable.

Among adults, the World Health Organization estimates that globally 47 percent of men smoke regularly compared with 12 percent of women. The report, compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and WHO, was presented at a six-day convention attended by more than 2,000 experts from 115 countries. MANS HULDEN (AP)

### VANISHING GENDER GAP

The study showed that only in the eastern Mediterranean region and Southeast Asia were boys still smoking significantly more than girls.

→ Southeast Asia: 13.5 percent of boys smoke regularly, compared with 3.2 percent of girls.

→ Eastern Mediterranean: 22.8 percent of boys smoke regularly, compared with 5.3 percent of girls.

## Flap Over Space Arms Race Eased

GENEVA | China and Russia on Thursday eased their demands for negotiations to ban weapons in outer space in an attempt to get the United States to end a long-standing deadlock in the world's main disarmament body.

The two countries told the 65-nation Conference on Disarmament they would be willing to begin discussions on preventing an arms race in outer space even if they fall short of treaty negotiations.

U.S. officials in Geneva declined to comment immediately.

China and Russia maintain a treaty is needed to prevent an arms race in outer space because of U.S. plans to develop a defense against attack by missiles from rogue countries.

The United States denies it is planning to put weapons in space and has said it sees no need for a new treaty. Previously the United States has said it might enter general discussions on the subject, but it has rejected any suggestion the talks would ultimately lead to a legally binding treaty. (AP)

## Rebels Down Russian Helicopter

ROSTOV-ON-DON, RUSSIA | Chechen rebels using a shoulder-fired missile shot down a Russian military helicopter Thursday in the mountains, killing three of the crew, the military said.

The attack in Chechnya was the latest demonstration of the separatists' capacity to kill Russian forces despite being outnumbered.

The missile attack occurred after the Mi-8 helicopter deliv-

ered paratroopers to an area just north of Vedeno, said a military officer. Vedeno is in the heavily wooded mountains that make up the southern third of Chechnya and provide shelter for the rebels.

At least seven other Russian servicemen died in attacks over the past day, an official in the Moscow-backed Chechnya administration said on condition of anonymity. Russia artillery shelled suspected

rebel positions and federal forces detained at least 150 people in a series of sweeps, the official said.

The reports followed the pattern of bloody stalemate that has characterized most of the nearly four-year Chechnya war. The Kremlin has been eager to show the situation in Chechnya as normalizing, lauding a referendum and October presidential elections as concrete steps to peace. SERGEI VENYAVSKY (AP)

HEARSAY | THE COMPANY HE KEPT



"We will have a new, young, reformist team for the 21st century as far as the army is concerned."

—SERBIAN PRIME MINISTER ZORAN DJINDJIC

THE COUNTRY'S TOP MILITARY COMMITTEE DISMISSED OR RETIRED SEVERAL TOP COMMANDERS THURSDAY IN A PURGE OF THOSE WHO SERVED FORMER YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC.



**BY THE NUMBERS:** Japan's police agency reported Thursday that the number of violent crimes linked to online dating sites had almost doubled in the first half of this year from the same period last year. (AP)



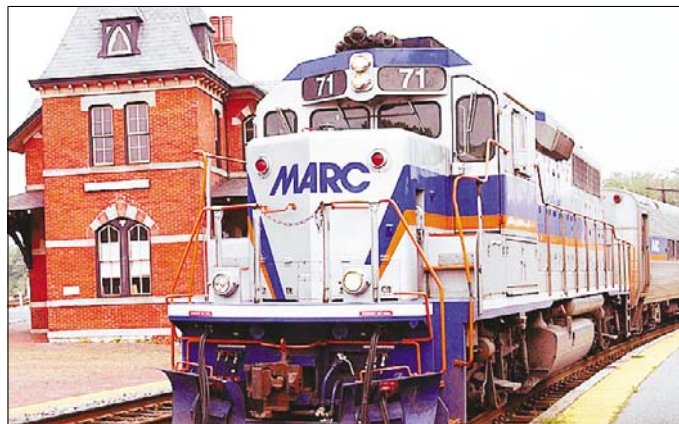
## City Workers Get Bribery Charges

WASHINGTON | Two city employees were charged with bribery Thursday for allegedly accepting cash from people who received parking and traffic citations, and in return, clearing unpaid fines, the FBI said.

The scheme allegedly cost the District \$100,000.

Tonette Cooks, 28, is a teller at the Department of Motor Vehicles' Traffic Adjudication Services branch, and Sherry McKnight, 38, was described as a civilian go-between. (AP)

## MARC TRAINS | ALL ABOARD



**TOOTING ITS HORN:** A new survey says that MARC riders are generally pleased with its performance, but want more warnings of delays.

BILL RYAN/AP

## Metro Cracks Down On Parking Lot Crime

New unit will focus on increase in vehicle thefts and break-ins

WASHINGTON | Metro Transit Police said Thursday they're launching an Auto Theft Unit later this month to combat a regional increase in vehicle thefts and break-ins, and better-protect the estimated 57,000 vehicles that park in Metro lots and garages during an average weekday.

The unit will include officers in uniform, plainclothes and K-9 units, as well as employees keeping an eye on the lots and other tactics, said transit police spokeswoman Officer Linda Foxwell.

The number of break-ins at Metrorail parking facilities dipped from 311 in fiscal year 2002 to 285 in 2003, said Foxwell. But the number of reported break-ins during June of this year climbed to 64 — more than 40 percent higher than June 2002. (AP)

## In Brief

### THE DISTRICT

#### New Bus Service Proposed

City officials presented plans on Thursday for a new bus service that would start with two routes — one running along K Street, from Union Station to Georgetown, and the other

from the Washington Convention Center, past the National Mall, to the waterfront. Officials hope to begin service in a year. It would be run by Metro and cost 50 cents. (AP)

### MARYLAND

#### Carjacking Suspect Indicted

Carl Jones, accused of leading police on a chase from Baltimore

to Montgomery, Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties was indicted by a Montgomery grand jury Thursday for kidnapping, second-degree assault and carjacking, among other charges.

On July 15, Jones allegedly carjacked a woman's sports utility vehicle with her two young children inside, after leaving a stolen vehicle, giving way to an hour-and-a-half chase. The children were not hurt. (AP)

cle, giving way to an hour-and-a-half chase. The children were not hurt. (AP)

### THE DISTRICT

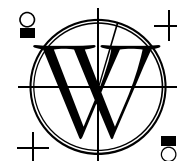
#### City Urges Parents to Check Immunization Records

A city-wide effort was launched Thursday to ensure 12,000 children have the immunizations they

need to come back to school on Sept. 2.

Last year, school officials could not produce records proving as many as 41,000 children were properly immunized. A number of students spent several weeks barred from District schools because they lacked proof of immunization. (AP)

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# Region

## Muhammad's Lawyers Seek Jury Consultant

### Defense asks death penalty to be ruled unconstitutional

MANASSAS, VA. | Lawyers for sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad are seeking permission to hire a jury consultant to help them navigate a jury pool that lived through last year's killing spree.

Muhammad's lawyers also filed a 75-page motion seeking to have the death penalty declared unconstitutional, arguing that the possibility of an innocent person being executed amounts to cruel and unusual

punishment. Circuit Judge LeRoy F. Millette Jr. has already rejected other arguments to have the death penalty tossed out.

It is rare for a Virginia court to allow an indigent defendant like Muhammad to hire a jury consultant at taxpayer expense, but the defense says circumstances of the case make it necessary.

Last month, Millette ordered a change of venue from Manassas to Virginia Beach. While some concerns about the jury pool have been reduced by the change, they are not gone, the defense team contends.

MATTHEW BARAKAT (AP)

## Emergency Units Test Readiness At St. Elizabeth's

WASHINGTON | Emergency personnel tested their ability to respond to a mass casualty incident Thursday in a drill at St. Elizabeth's hospital

— where they were told five mock protesters broke into a plant and mixed chemicals into the poison used in gas chamber executions, said a D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman.

Responders discovered dozens of mock patients showing symptoms of respiratory distress, some with cuts and other injuries. (AP)

### HEARSAY | GANG VIOLENCE



"Bullets don't have eyes. It's just a matter of time before it impacts you directly or indirectly."

— D.C. POLICE CHIEF CHARLES RAMSEY ON WTOP RADIO, DISCUSSING THE GANG ACTIVITY SEEN IN WASHINGTON IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS

## Mosquitoes With West Nile Virus Found in NW D.C.

WASHINGTON | The D.C. Department of Health on Thursday said two pools of mosquitoes in Northwest have tested positive for West Nile Virus — the first in D.C. this year.

Last year the virus was present throughout the District. Officials said it serves as "a heads up" to concentrate efforts to kill mosquito larvae and avoid getting bitten.

The two batches of mosquitoes were collected from the 3000 block of M Street and the 3000 block of North Capital Street, the department said. There have been no human cases of the virus in D.C. this year. (EXPRESS)

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# Money

## In Brief

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### Pixar Chief Challenges Disney Over Distribution

Buoyed by the success of the animated blockbuster "Finding Nemo," Pixar Animation Studios chief Steve Jobs said Thursday he is prepared to strike a new distribution deal with another studio if Disney does not meet his terms. The comments were the boldest statement Jobs has made yet on the negotiations with The Walt Disney Co. The current deal expires in 2005. (AP)

### AUTOS

#### GM to Add 9 New Vehicles To Chevrolet Line-Up

General Motors Corp. will add nine new vehicles to its high-volume Chevrolet brand in the next few years, including a crossover vehicle unveiled Thursday. The high-roofed crossover is scheduled for the 2006 model year and will be targeted to young families. (AP)

### INTERNET

#### Band Generates \$1M From Online Sales of Music

Phish, the jam band whose open taping policy made it one of the nation's biggest live acts, is again sidestepping the record industry to cash in on the online music revolution. Livephish.com — offering soundboard-quality downloads of performances for as little as \$9.95 — generated \$1 million in the first four months after launching New Year's Eve 2002. (AP)

## Retailers Get Lift With Upbeat Sales Reports

Analysts hope trend continues into back-to-school season

NEW YORK | The nation's retailers finally got a break in July as warm weather and heavy discounting lifted sales above expectations, even for struggling department stores.

The upbeat sales reports issued Thursday halted a sluggish trend seen since last summer and raised hopes that consumers will be in the mood to spend for the critical back-to-school season.

The performance from retailers coincided with strong economic data from the government. The Labor Department reported that

productivity — the amount that an employee produces per hour of work — rose at an annual rate of 5.7 percent in the April to June quarter. That was the best performance since the third quarter of 2002. ANNE D'INNOCENZIO (AP)

### SAME-STORE SALES

Sales at stores open at least a year, known as same-store sales, are considered the best indicator of a retailer's health

→ Wal-Mart's same-store sales were up 4.6%

→ Target Corp. posted a same-store sales increase of 3.1%

→ Gap, continuing its turnaround, reported same-store sales increase of 9%

## U.S. Wheels Gain Ground Abroad

INDIANAPOLIS | Tyler Hamilton couldn't top Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong, but Hamilton's strong performance and single-day wins by two of his teammates have increased the visibility of the small U.S. bicycle wheel maker Zipp Speed Weaponry in the United States and Europe.

The company supplied carbon fiber wheels to Hamilton's Danish-based Team CSC in a

two-year equipment deal, joining other U.S. bike parts makers that are chipping away at European and Japanese equipment dominance in Europe's road racing circuit.

Zipp's international sales now amount for 51 percent of revenue, a figure Zipp president Andy Ording expects to grow with Zipp's marketing bounce from the CSC deal.

In the consumer market, Zipp wheels and its high-end competitors are not for everybody. A retail set of Zipp wheels ranges from \$1,350 to \$3,000, depending on the model.

MARK JEWELL (AP)

## Market Action

### New York Stock Exchange

#### Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
BestBuy	46.49	+5.81	+14.3
TenetHlt	14.57	+1.52	+11.6
SwiftEng	11.92	+96	+8.8
CompX	5.62	+40	+7.7
DmRsBW	25.29	+1.79	+7.6

#### Losers

Americdt	6.60	-1.20	-15.4
CarolinaGp	21.80	-3.26	-13.0
Cryolife	4.70	-.55	-10.5
Guess	6.49	-.69	-9.6
NamTai s	20.01	-1.94	-8.8

### Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	4.00	4.25
Fed Funds close	1.00	1.125
3-month	0.92	0.92
2-year	1.71	1.75
10-year	4.22	4.41
30-year	5.21	5.36

### NASDAQ Stock Market

#### Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
HostAmr	3.88	+1.69	+77.2
WtrsdCp	3.65	+95	+35.2
VA Sftwr	2.98	+62	+26.3
TargGene	2.07	+36	+21.1
Tknwldg	2.65	+45	+20.5

#### Losers

PacIntrnet	6.73	-2.27	-25.2
AspenTc	2.48	-.74	-23.0
XM Sat	10.52	-2.75	-20.7
Larscom rs	2.61	-.64	-19.7
AEagleO	17.35	-3.52	-16.9

### Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.6177	.6216	.6502
Canadian Dollar	1.3930	1.4037	1.5760
European Euro	.8792	.8814	1.0263
Japanese Yen	118.95	120.21	120.17
Mexican Peso	10.6720	10.7000	9.7395
Taiwanese Dollar	34.44	34.44	33.90

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+0.71	-0.03	+0.73
9126.45	1652.18	974.12

### Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
Allergan	77.05	+33	+33.7
AstraZen	40.20	+1.15	+14.6
BarrLab s	64.45	-.51	+48.5
Biovail	38.33	+1.08	+45.1
BrMySq	26.09	+61	+12.7
ForestLb s	43.90	-.91	-10.6
JohnJn	51.80	+1.59	-3.6
LillyEli	63.85	+91	+6
Merck	55.90	+1.68	-1.3
Mylan s	34.15	+1.02	+46.8
Pfizer	32.94	+49	+7.8
SchergPl	16.48	+21	-25.8
ShirePh	22.23	+48	+17.7
WatsonPh	38.15	+57	+34.9
Wyeth	44.28	+1.63	+18.4

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**COUTURE SHOCK:** Isabel (Kate Hudson) fondles lingerie and ponders her romantic future, as her American idealism bumps up against French romanticism.

# A Fine Affair, or Two

## Comedy of manners 'Le Divorce' marries substance and fluff

**MOVIES** | Who knew a Merchant Ivory film could be so much fun?

Director and co-writer James Ivory and producer Ismail Merchant, best known for their stuffy, flawlessly appointed period pieces, offer their take on the French farce with "Le Divorce."

Based on the novel by Diane Johnson, "Le Divorce" stars Kate Hudson and Naomi Watts as Isabel and Roxanne, American sisters in Paris. Roxy is a poet, wife and moth-

er with a second baby on the way. Isabel has flown in from California to visit with her older sister — just as Roxy's French artist husband, Charles-Henri (Melvil Poupaud), is leaving her to be with another woman.

Isabel ends up having a dalliance with Edgar (Thierry Lhermitte), a French diplomat who's much older, married — and just happens to be Charles-Henri's uncle.

It's easy to see why she'd be attracted to Edgar; his intellect and sophistication make him eminently sexy. And he has impeccable taste; a red crocodile Hermes purse he gives her becomes a scarlet symbol that

older women recognize throughout the film, including Charles-Henri's wealthy, controlling mother (Leslie Caron).

Isabel's affair, and Charles-Henri's, cause the sisters to question their American sense of idealism while immersed in French culture.

The cultural clashes in "Le Divorce" couldn't be more timely, given France's vocal opposition to the American-led war in Iraq, and the present-day setting gives it a

tangible sense of realism.

That's why it makes absolutely no sense when Matthew Modine shows up as the jealous husband of Charles-Henri's mistress — he stalks Roxy and desperately waves a gun at the top of the Eiffel Tower.

But he does provide a great line. At Roxy's book-reading, Isabel asks him, "Are you an admirer of American poetry?"

"No," he replies. "I'm an entertainment lawyer."

CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)



**GUILTY PLEASURES:** Join the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders at their swimsuit-calendar release party. All we ask is that you feel a little guilty. Lulu's; 23rd and M streets, NW; 6 p.m., \$15-\$25; 202-861-5858.

## → Got Plans?

FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE [WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT](http://WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT)

The Going Out Gurus of Got Plans? think you should get out more. Get in on the discussion every Thursday at 1 p.m.

**I'm going on a second date on Friday night in Old Town. Please, please, please give me some romantic restaurant/after-restaurant ideas which average-jane/joes can afford.**

Forgo the waterside spots and pick one of the smaller restaurants along King. If you enjoy French food, Le Gaulois has classic French specials. For tapas there's the cheery Las Tapas and my favorite, roast lamb at Taverna Kretskou — or save that for your third date. Every Thursday they have music and plate smashing!

**Any suggestions for vegetarian-friendly restaurant in Georgetown for three married couples on a Sunday afternoon?**

Peacock Cafe serves brunch until 4 on Sundays, and the old favorite, Pizzeria Paradiso, seems friendlier in Georgetown.

**The Flaming Lips opening for The String Cheese Incident. Shouldn't it be the other way around?**

The String Cheese Incident is sort of a jam band with a bluegrass feel. And the group may just turn out to be your best friend. Yesterday they filed a lawsuit against Ticketmaster in federal court for anti-trust violations. If this leads to more competition and an end to ridiculous service charges, we're all for it.

For info: [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com)

Continued on page 12



Weirdo-rock legends Flaming Lips, imagining scorched String Cheese.

Two thumbs up? Or 10 toes? **The Washington Post** movie reviewers weigh in.

**Sealed With a Tank** Summer Weekends Are Torment? Sit Watching Action Trash? **Michael O'Sullivan** reviews "S.W.A.T." | *Weekend*

**Catch 22 Redux** The bitterness of young men amid the absurdities of war, all over again. **Stephen Hunter** reviews "Buffalo Soldiers." | *Style*

**Rarity Revived** A script by the late Akira Kurosawa surfaces in Kei Kumai's love story. **Stephen Hunter** reviews "The Sea Is Watching." | *Style*

# Entertainment



**BE HOME BY 11, MOM:** Anna (Lindsay Lohan) and Tess (Jamie Lee Curtis) fall into the generation gap in the surprisingly true-to-life teen comedy "Freaky Friday."

## Other Voices, Other Shoes

A supernatural switcheroo as a cure for modern life

**MOVIES** | Like most actresses over the age of consent, Jamie Lee Curtis tends to get sidelined as the wife or the mother, although it's the smart director who spots the mischief in her eyes and cuts her loose.

Watching her cut loose is one of the pleasures of the winsome generational comedy "Freaky Friday."

As Dr. Tess Coleman, a widow raising 15-year-old Anna (Lindsay Lohan) and 10-year-old Harry (newcomer Ryan Malgarini), Curtis doesn't so much enter the scene as throw herself into the atmospherically familiar fray. Her black coordinates flowing, her cell phones and personal organizers cocked like sidearms, Tess embodies the over-extended parent as superhero.

She doesn't have the time or

patience for her daughter's adolescent agonies. But when they switch bodies, Tess revisits the purgatory of high school while her daughter learns just how hot mom's legs look in high-heeled boots.

Directed with brisk playfulness by Mark Waters, "Freaky Friday" brings the story (from Mary Rodgers' book, on which a film starring Jodie Foster was based) persuasively up-to-the-minute. The seriousness with which it treats both sides makes the film feel fresh. The filmmakers give Anna her due, but they don't sacrifice Tess on the altar of the working mother.

For all their yelling, stomping and hair-flipping, Anna and Tess make for a refreshingly normal pair. What makes "Freaky Friday" a charmer is how sweet and distinctly unfreaky a kid, her mom and their love for each other can be.

MANOHLA DARGIS (LOS ANGELES

TIMES)

## →GotPlans?

Continued from page 11

**Have any of you been to the electrotease nights at Five? What's the crowd been like (in terms of numbers and pretensions)? Worth checking out?**

We've been, and it draws the cooler-than-thou hipsters you might expect, but also just some folks who want to dance and enjoy the music at Five. Tomorrow's Le Tigre DJ set should be cool, but I'm not too big on Tracy and the Plastics. Like much of the Electroclash I'm hearing these days, image is beating substance by a 1,000-to-1 ratio.

**I just moved back into the district after a three-year hiatus. What was I thinking? I'm at 17th and U and wondering what bars/restaurants do I need to frequent before my new neighbors have me feeling like a lame suburbanite.**

Congrats on the move. Now, start getting to know your bartenders at Local 16, Polly's, Saint-Ex, the Saloon and Kingpin. For eats, try The Islander, Florida Avenue Grill, Polly's or Saint-Ex. And, of course, it's all about Ben's.

**With Everclear headlining at Live on Penn, what time do you think the Robert Randolph band and De La Soul will get to the stage?**

We think if you get there by 6, you won't have missed either, but we're not guaranteeing anything.



De La Soul is ready to get funky, in a neo-hippie way, at Live on Penn.

**Where is a good first date place take a 30-year-old teacher?**

Depends, are you a 14-year-old student? "Spellbound" is, for our money, the sweetest movie of the summer, and oddly, a romantic date.

Foxchase Theater, Duke and North Jordan, Alexandria; 703-370-5565.

## HEARSAY | BIOLOGY



"It just happened. The morning I woke up, I felt funny and said, Honey, did we ... ? And the fourth one, right there."

— "THE WEST WING" CAST MEMBER MARLEE MATLIN ON HOW SHE CAME TO BE PREGNANT WITH HER FOURTH CHILD

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Hiya, gurus! My parents are coming to town. Which is nice, but do you know of a couple of places I can send them out to for a few hours here and there? They've been to D.C. several times before and have seen the memorials. Gracias.

De nada. They shouldn't miss Marsden Hartley at the Phillips, Arthur Ellis at the Corcoran, Anne Frank the Writer at the Holocaust Museum. We hope you'll soon be able to see these, too.

Anyone got ideas for places to meet for midday or early-evening trysts? Cars seem so tawdry; friends's homes are off limits; the office is not an option.

This is the sort of question we live for. How about a nice secluded spot on the Metro? Or the top of the Washington Monument? Or maybe inside your favorite vendor's hot dog cart? Don't say we don't have any good ideas.

A good friend is turning 26, and we're trying to find someplace new to celebrate, someplace in Adams Morgan/Dupont where a group of 20-somethings can hear themselves think.

Gazuza's patio will fit your needs, as will the roof of Wazuri. And if you haven't tried Pharmacy Bar, you should.

Just wondering about these jazz performances at the Smithsonian on Friday evenings. What time do things really pick up, i.e., when does the music begin?

Friday evenings you can find jazz in the National Gallery's Sculpture Garden. Concerts start at 5pm — the cafe is open until 8pm. At the Smithsonian, look for free jazz every Thursday night on the Hirshhorn's plaza starting at 5:30pm unless otherwise noted. Both programs close at the end of the month, so make haste.



A June Jazz in the Garden with Bruce Ewan and the Solid Sensors.

# Human Interest

TELEVISION | Premium cable's woman of a thousand faces spends a consistently amusing hour as veteran makeup artist Ruby Romaine in "Tracey Ullman in the Trailer Tales," Saturday at 8 p.m. on HBO. Presented in a series of often raunchy flashbacks, "Tales" recounts Ruby's brief flirtation with retirement and her painful attempts to rejoin the highly selective makeup artist's union.

Along the way, we witness Ruby's gin-soaked retirement party, her dalliances with the union president, her battles with his ungrateful son and even glimpses back to old Hollywood, when Ruby helped an up-and-coming black actress "pass" as a blond bombshell.

This is only one of many caustic takes on Tinseltown's corruption, hypocrisy and absurdity.

Debbie Reynolds plays herself as the slightly confused recipient of Ruby's recollections. Jane Kaczmarek also cameos, complaining about the brats she works with on "Malcolm in the Middle."

Ullman also plays an aging rap diva and Ruby's streetwalking neighbor. While not every scene is spectacular, it's stunning to watch Ullman turn this dotty character study into a Hollywood epic.

KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)



WOMAN WITH A PAST: Tracey Ullman's latest creation — aging Hollywood makeup artist Ruby Romaine — with her colorful knit bag full of memories.

## Almost Famous: Kids at 'Camp'

MOVIES | "Camp" wears its heart on its sleeve and every other available surface.

A fresh-air "Fame" about a summer camp for talented teenagers who are hooked on musical theater, it plugs into the energy, skill and unapologetic joy of its young performers and doesn't look back.

The attraction here is not gloss and refinement but the inescapable charm and cheerful ability of a hard-to-resist cast. Camp Ovation is a place where erstwhile outcasts who are shunned in their high schools can relax and be accepted, where everyone gets it when you say "That's so 'Stella Dallas' and Stephen Sondheim is



Hey, guys — we've got a cabin; we can put on our own Broadway show!

worshipped the way Michael Jordan is everywhere else.

As written and directed by Todd Graff, it has a good deal of the appeal, and the drawbacks, of a high school play. It can be pokey and overly earnest and its dramatics are not always polished, but on the other hand, would you really want them to be?

KENNETH TURAN (L.A. TIMES)

**Film chat:** Director/writer Catherine Hardwicke talks about her film "Thirteen," today at 11 a.m. [www.washingtonpost.com/liveonline](http://www.washingtonpost.com/liveonline)



**HEADS UP:** They may have been Scottish, but the styles they play — funk, soul, R&B — are all-American. Average White Band plays the Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; 7:30 p.m., \$22.50; 703-549-7500.

### ON TV THIS WEEKEND

**SECOND-GENERATION BOOMER**  
Boomtown (Fri., 10 p.m., NBC) at its new date and time. Last season, the show wowed critics with its overlapping first-person narrative. In tonight's episode, Hechler tries to prove himself during a hostage crisis.

**BRITS PRANK GIFTS**  
3 Non-Blondes (Sun., 9 p.m., BBC America) An inspired female UK comedy trio puts strangers on the spot — by singing loudly (and badly) in public and asking strangers for directions, then going deeper: "Should I break up with my boyfriend?"

**BLOOD, WATER, TEETH**  
Anatomy of a Shark Bite (Sun., 9 p.m., Discovery) If it's August, it must be "Shark Week." The festivities kick off with this examination of a shark behaviorist's unfortunate run-in with a bull shark.

**FUR, TAILS, UH, TEETH**  
Donny Osmond's Animal Adventures (Fri., 9 p.m., Travel), celebrates vacation destinations where families "interact" with animals. Osmond travels from an Arizona's "safari" to an alligator park in Florida to Las Vegas, where the kids' parents can "interact" with slot machines.  
KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

## Sunday in The Washington Post

### It's a Frame-Up

What's holding up the world's great paintings? Blake Gopnik looks at art from the outside in — starting with the frames. | [Style](#)

### Geronimo!

Plummeting toward the earth with a backpack full of nylon: a guide to skydiving schools. | [Sunday Source](#)

### Back on the Horse

After notable cinematic setbacks, Kevin Costner directs again. He tells Sarah Kaufman about his new Western. | [Style](#)

### Don't Get Mad, Get Off the List

Dealing with telemarketers without losing your privacy — or your temper. | [Sunday Source](#)



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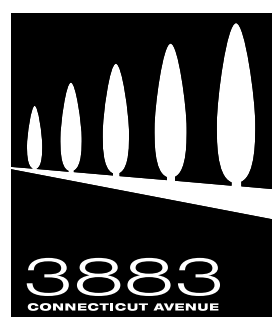
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## REAL ESTATE

## Live Online

Washington Post writer **DANIELA DEANE** discusses D.C. metro area real estate twice a month on [washingtonpost.com/liveonline](http://washingtonpost.com/liveonline).

**My partner and I are considering buying a condo in Logan Circle, the area where we now rent. Like many of our neighbors, we're concerned that low interest rates are creating hyperinflated prices (i.e. \$240,000 for a 425 sq. ft. studio). Should we wait for rates to start going back up and prices to stabilize, or should we "get in while the getting's good" in Logan?**

\$240,000 for a small studio? Well, all I can say is this: Local housing economists are not predicting a collapse in prices here at all. Also, national housing economists predict rates won't go up that much. So, if you believe them, you should buy.

**My fiancé and I just bought a condo in the Adams Morgan area. We're considering selling it next spring and using a portion of the profits as a down payment on a house. Would it be more profitable to keep the unit and rent it out for a few years?**

Ultimately, it would be more profitable to hold on to your condo and also buy another place. You'll get appreciation on two properties then. Also, if you're renting your condo out, here are some of the advantages: your renter pays your mortgage, you can depreciate it on your taxes and you get appreciation, even if it's small. I know some of my readers wouldn't dream of being landlords, though.

# Sucking It Upright

## Swanky, high-tech vacuums eat dirt and look good doing it

It has smooth curves, a compact body, luminescent skin and lots of power.

It's neither a supermodel nor a sports car.

It's a vacuum cleaner.

"Vacuums used to be sold by a salesman dumping dirt on the carpet," said David Kelley, professor of product design at Stanford University. "Then someone decided that this sleepy object could make users feel good and be a reflection of our self-image."

Today's vacuums come in brilliant colors, cool metallic finishes and clear acrylics that proudly show off their advanced engineering.

In 1984, Miele, a German appliance company, introduced a sealed canister model that sucked up even microscopic dust mites. But it was Miele's arresting appearance — it looked like a hard-shelled beetle and came in bright, candy-toned colors — that took vacuums out of the closet and into the photo shoots of decor magazines.

Canister vacuums like Miele's are popular in Europe, while the United States market is dominated by uprights. Great for reaching

under couches and beds, canisters sit nicely on stairs and they don't mind being pulled by the hose. They're designed to follow like a puppy. But canisters take up more storage space than uprights.

Hoover's premium upright vacuum is the handsome WindTunnel. The upper-end models are self-propelled — you just guide them around a room. Invariably, however, you're going to have to lift and carry the machine, and the self-propelled mechanism makes these models relatively heavy.

The most eye-catching uprights are those made by an English company, Dyson Direct, founded by inventor James Dyson. Featured in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's "Century of Design" exhibition in 2000, the missile-shaped Dyson DC07 (on left) is encased in smooth plastic colored in crayonlike shades of yellow, purple or red.

The DC07 doesn't get by on its looks alone. It uses a dual-cyclone action to suck dirt into its clear, bagless bin. The device is designed to maintain optimum suction power no matter how full the dustbin gets.

Even trusty old Sears has updated its resident Kenmore to keep up with the times. Its vacuums might not be as good-looking as the DC07, but some Kenmore canister and upright models come with extremely handy hoses that pull out to as much as 25 feet.

JANET EASTMAN (L.A. TIMES)

### DIRTY PRETTY THINGS

These stylish vacuum cleaners make housework good clean fun.

#### → Kenmore Progressive (\$300-\$450)

They may not be the hippest looking vacuums, but they come with great attachments and high-tech options like infrared dirt sensors.

#### → Hoover WindTunnel (\$200-\$450)

The ingenious Dirtfinder feature detects the sound of dirt entering the machine. When all's clear, the sensor triggers a green light on the vacuum, telling the user to move on.

#### → Miele canister models (\$200-\$1,000)

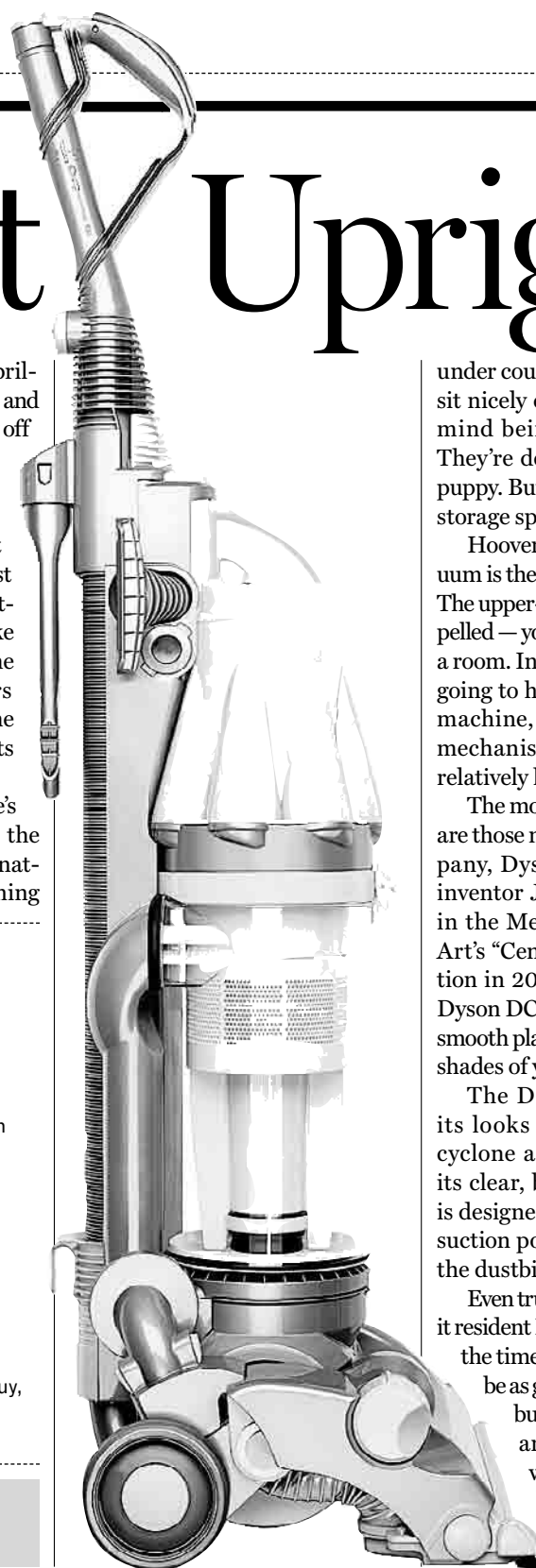
This German company made vacuum cleaners chic in 1984 when it introduced its colorful lineup of powerful sealed canisters.

#### → Dyson DC07 (\$400-\$500)

The hip upright of the moment comes in crayonlike colors, with powerful motors and cuddly ergonomics. It may be art, but it's accessible: buy it at Sears, Best Buy, and online.



**BY THE NUMBERS:** In a poll of its upscale properties agents, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corp. found that nearly a third of those who bought property worth \$1 million or more paid for it in cold, hard cash.



## Let It All Hang Out

**DECOR** Even if it's a tattered poster of dogs playing poker, art (or "art," as the case may be) warms up a room. Interior design team Margi Vorder Bruegge and George Snead, of Fairfield County, Conn., advise that you hang what you have, then look for the perfect piece. Their take on the critical over-the-sofa slot:

A large single piece of art can go either over the mantel (if you're lucky enough to have one) or the sofa. To keep it from being a bor-

ing lone rectangle, build out either side of it using candle sconces or a pair of smaller horizontal engravings stacked on either side.

Since the space over any sofa is usually rectangular and horizontal, the objective is to mimic the shape with artwork. Two large vertical prints hung side by side will create a horizontal rectangle. So will six or eight engravings in a series hung either three over three or four over four. (STAMFORD ADVOCATE)

## Shopping Around

Every Wednesday, Janet Bennett delivers a week-full of finds in her **Sales & Discoveries** column at [washingtonpost.com/entertainment](http://washingtonpost.com/entertainment). Here are a few:

- New products at Vega include curvaceous plastic vases from \$33 to \$45 and multifunctional stools and side tables from \$250 to \$600. (819 7th St. NW, Washington, D.C.)
- Save 30 to 70 percent on furniture, tableware and decorative accessories during Urban Country's summer

sale and clearance. Drexel Heritage and Milling Road are names to look for. (7801 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, Md.)

- At Anthropologie's summer sale, a vintage-inspired wire table is reduced to \$89.95; matching armchairs are \$69.95 each. (11500 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md.)

✦ **Go shopping in your inbox:** For more deals on home gear, subscribe to Janet Bennett's e-mail newsletter, Buy Line, at [washingtonpost.com/entertainment](http://washingtonpost.com/entertainment).



**BEFORE & AFTER:** Framing a piece of art with sconces fills out the space.

# Lookout

## On the Fringe

N.Y. arts festival gives outsiders a place to shine

**ARTS** | A Russian dancer peels off a chiffon toga — and, seemingly, some of her skin. A turtle emerges from its shell and romps in a pink tutu. And a reality show contestant writes a real-life story about his experiences in a rock band.

Welcome to this year's New York International Fringe Festival, an offbeat showcase of actors, musicians and performance artists that has become the largest and one of the most progressive theater festivals in America. It opens today and runs through Aug. 24 at 20 Manhattan theaters.

Organizers chose 204 shows — the largest number ever — from 720 submissions. Artistic director and co-founder Elena K. Holy said less than half that many applications were received in 1996, the festival's first year.

Since then, the festival has produced the Tony-winning Broadway musical, "Urinetown," which opened at the festival in 1999. And Fringe shows "Never Swim Alone" and "Last Train to Nibroc" went from the festival to off-Broadway.

Holy said she looked for "vibrancy, diversity and innovation" with

this year's entries.

Six artists performed snippets of their performances at a news conference on Tuesday, including Eliza Jane Schneider, who provides the voices to all the female characters on Comedy Central's irreverent animated series, "South Park."

**"Nobody knows me. Who else is going to give me five days in a theater?"**

— KSENIA VIDYAYKINA  
RUSSIAN "FRINGE" PERFORMER

"I think of this as a sort of platform for real people," said Schneider, who quotes from oral histories she obtained on her 300,000-mile drive around the United States in her one-woman show, "Freedom of Speech."

Schneider drove from 1993 to 1996 in an ambulance until it broke down, then continued her travels in a 1964 Metro International bread truck.

Pat Candaras, a widowed maritime union administrator who

turned to comedy about five years ago, said she appreciates the festival's freedom.

"People tell me I'm not a true standup. I'm part storyteller," said Candaras, whose festival show is titled "Panic Is Not a Disorder."

At the festival, she said, "there are no restrictions."

The performances also included a puppet show for children with the dancing turtle, and a musical written by "Cupid" TV show contestant Paul Stancato about his experiences in a rock band.

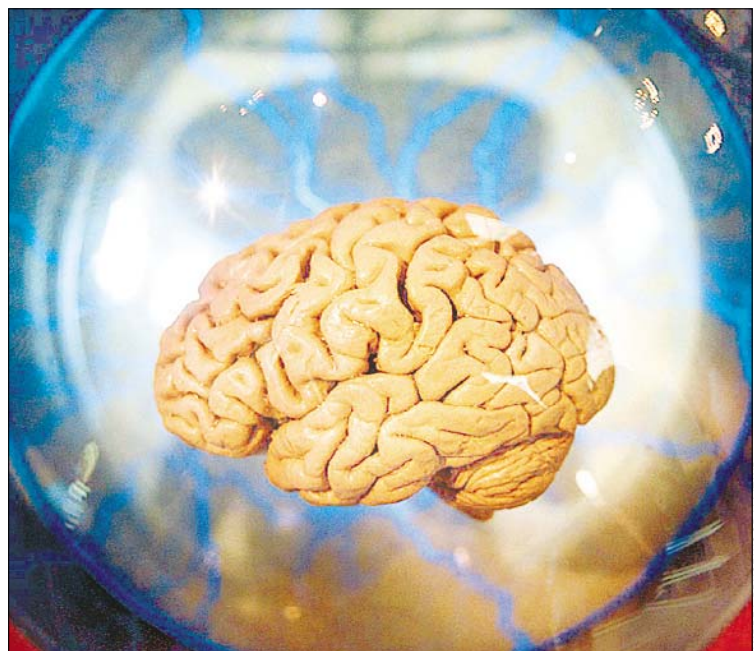
In a performance called "Trapped," Russian dancer Ksenia Vidyaykina stripped off a chiffon toga and then rubber material made to look like her skin off her thighs, drawing red paint that looked a lot like blood.

Vidyaykina said she wanted to show "the guts and beauty" in peeling away her layers. She had never performed in America and is using the festival to introduce herself to the city's dance community.

"Nobody knows me," Vidyaykina said in clear English. "Who else is going to give me five days in a theater?" AMY WESTFELDT (AP)



Russian dancer Ksenia Vidyaykina takes stripping one step further.



**HOW DOES YOUR BRAIN RATE?** Scientists in California have mapped out thousands of brains to find similarities and differences across cultures.

## You're Not Normal

**UCLA researchers map 7,000 brains in search of average**

**SCIENCE** | Human brains are stunningly diverse. No two are identical, not even those of identical twins.

So when scientists are looking at a brain, how do they know when they're looking at one that's normal?

It's hard not to recall the scene in the 1974 Mel Brooks comedy "Young Frankenstein" when Igor selects the "Abby Normal" brain for his boss to put in the monster.

Researchers are now trying to

better understand what constitutes a "normal" brain by studying a newly compiled atlas that contains digitally mapped images of 7,000 of the organs. A decade in the making, the brain mapping project quietly debuted this summer.

Use of the atlas allows researchers to compare and contrast these brain images, captured from all sorts of people living in seven nations on four continents.

Most are between the ages of 20 and 40, but some are as young as 7 and as old as 90.

Along with the brain images of "normal" people are those of people suffering from Alzheimer's,

fetal alcohol syndrome, autism and schizophrenia.

More data are continually being added.

"This is a project born of frustration, basically. For many years, all of us who study brain structure and function have struggled with the fact that no two brains are the same — not in shape or size and certainly not in function," said Dr. John Mazziotta of the International Consortium for Brain Mapping, based at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"But how different they were and how to compare them was not known." ANDREW BRIDGES (AP)



## In Brief

## PRO BASEBALL

**Cust's Home Run Gives Orioles Edge Over Twins**

Jack Cust hit his first American League homer, a three-run shot off Rick Reed, that carried the Baltimore Orioles past the Minnesota Twins 5-3 Thursday. Rodrigo Lopez (5-6) allowed three runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings for the Orioles, who earned a split of the four-game series. B.J. Ryan got four outs, three of them strikeouts, and Jorge Julio worked the ninth for his career-high 27th save. (AP)

## PRO BASKETBALL

**Judge Refuses To Throw Out Williams' Indictment**

A judge refused Thursday to throw out a manslaughter indictment against former NBA star Jayson Williams, who is charged in the Feb. 14, 2002 shooting death of a limousine driver. Williams' trial is expected to begin in January. (AP)



Jayson Williams

## PRO HOCKEY

**Caps' Johansson Retires**

Defenseman Calle Johansson retired Thursday, ending a career in which he appeared in more games than any other player in Washington Capitals history. Johansson will remain with the team as a scout. He is the franchise's leader in points by a defenseman (474), assists by a defenseman (361) and power-play goals by a defenseman (51). (AP)

## PRO BASKETBALL

**Blazers To Have Player Code**

The oft-troubled Portland Trail Blazers announced plans for a player code of conduct and lower ticket prices in a full-page ad appearing in the sports section of Thursday's Oregonian. The Blazers' last few seasons have been marred by player arrests and infighting. (AP)

## PRO BASKETBALL

**Stackhouse Charge Dropped**

Prosecutors have dropped a misdemeanor assault charge against Washington Wizards guard Jerry Stackhouse after he apologized to the alleged victim. Stackhouse was arrested last month on a charge of assaulting a woman. (AP)

# Parent Gone Too Far

Frenchman accused of drugging son's tennis opponents

TENNIS | Just how far parents might go to help children reach the sporting elite has become shockingly evident in France with the arrest of a man on suspicion he spiked the drinks of his 16-year-old son's tennis rivals with a prescription drug.

One player died in a car wreck after apparently falling asleep while driving, and another was hospitalized for two days, investigators say.

Christophe Fauvau was arrested Saturday and placed under judicial investigation to determine whether he should be formally charged with unintentionally causing a death by administering toxic substances to a tennis player.

He is suspected of giving the anti-anxiety drug Temesta — which can cause drowsiness — to several opponents of his son, Maxime.

Suspicious about Christophe Fauvau arose at a tennis tournament June 28 when a tennis player reported seeing Fauvau tamper with the player's water bottle just before his semifinal match with Maxime, police say.

The next day, Maxime defeated another player in the tournament's final match. That player fell ill shortly after the match and required a two-day hospital stay, Capt. Christian Flagella, a police investigator, said Thursday.

JEROME PUGMIRE (AP)

# 'Skins Cut Back Access to Ramsey

Team trying to keep the pressure off starting quarterback

FOOTBALL | On the first day of training camp, the media throng around Patrick Ramsey was so large that he had to stand on a bench so everyone could see him.

After a whirlwind week that included more than 20 separate media appointments for their second-year quarterback, the Washington Redskins are scaling Ramsey back. In an attempt to avoid time-management over-



Ramsey signing autographs for fans.

load, Ramsey will address reporters just twice a week after practice for the rest of the preseason.

"It suits me a little better,"

Ramsey told the 15 or so people who surrounded him Thursday. Even before training camp, the Redskins were concerned about the load on Ramsey's shoulders. The success of the season hinges on the 24-year-old quarterback, who will start in Saturday's pre-season game against Carolina.

The Redskins took the step of designating one person to handle all of Ramsey's media requests. A strategy was devised to handle the media: Anything's possible during Week One of training camp. After that, it's time to start saying no.

JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

## PAN AM GAMES | HAMMER TIME



**SECOND BEST:** Silver medalist James Parker competes in Thursday's hammer throw during the Pan Am Games in the Dominican Republic.

# Jones Plans Return After Becoming a Mom

TRACK | Olympic champion Marion Jones plans to make her comeback barely two months after giving birth to her first child.

Tim Montgomery, the baby's father, said Thursday that Jones had trained throughout her pregnancy and was eager to return to the track. Her aim is to run the 100 meters at the Sept. 5 Golden League meet in Belgium.

"She trained right through, she was doing starts when she was pregnant. She's a champion," he said.

Jones gave birth a month early to her son, Tim Montgomery, on June 28.

She won five medals at the 2000 Olympic Games, including golds in the 100 meters, 200 and 1,600 relay. Jones soon rose to superstar status following her performance.

Montgomery said the baby was doing well and had a successful checkup Tuesday. (AP)

## HEARSAY | LOYALTY



"If you're married, stick with your wife. Don't do anything crazy that's going to cause problems in your household."

—ORLANDO MAGIC STAR GUARD TRACY MCGRADY DISCUSSING KOBE BRYANT'S ADULTERY, WHICH LED TO A CHARGE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AGAINST THE LOS ANGELES LAKER

# Today's TV Lineup

**BOXING** (9 p.m. Friday on ESPN2) Middleweight Jermain Taylor looks to stay undefeated against Freddy Cuevas.

**FOOTBALL** (8 p.m. Saturday on WRC) The Washington Redskins get a first-hand look at how the team's former running back, Stephen Davis, is fitting in with the Carolina Panthers during a preseason game.

**FOOTBALL** (8 p.m. Saturday on Comcast) Baltimore Ravens rookie quarterback Kyle Boller gets his first taste of the National Football League when the team hosts the Buffalo Bills in a pre-season game.

**GOLF** (4 p.m. Friday on USA, 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on CBS) The International concludes.

Playback

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

I READ WITH DELIGHT your piece "Oil Firms Vulnerable in Volatile Niger Delta" (Aug. 6).

The confluence of interests that sets the region ablaze is as inflammable as the crude oil that has flourished the region.

The patience of the Niger Deltans is waning daily. Visits to the region would allow you to see faces of people filled with unbridled destitution, generational poverty, hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy, ecological catastrophe and ailments linked to oil and gas flares.

Basic infrastructures and rehabilitation of the displaced people of the Delta is a priority for peace to prevail in the Niger-Delta.

—FEMI SONEYE  
Cheverly, Md.

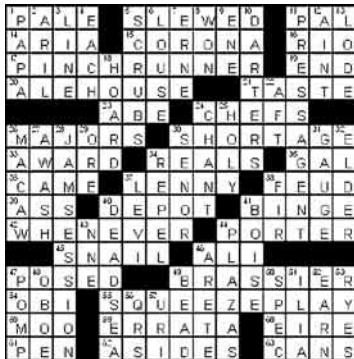
I'M A UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA student interning in D.C., and I think Express is great. I'm actually not bored with the easy-to-handle and interesting articles. I know the demographic for the paper is 18-34 and you've really hit the target. My friends and I love it. With all the young yuppies in the neighborhoods of Washington, you've really got something going here.

—ALLISON FORD  
Gainesville, Fla.

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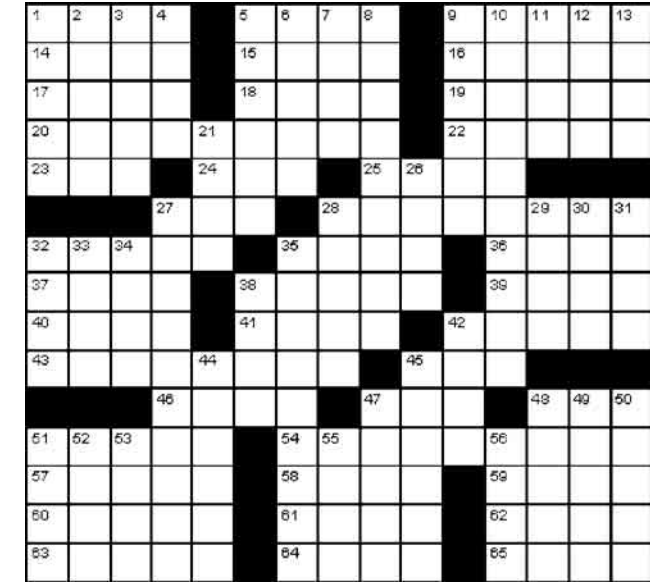
Yesterday's Solutions



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Word after "he" and "she"
- 5 Jersey juvenile
- 9 Golfer's motion
- 14 Surveyor's layout
- 15 Something sensed
- 16 Very small amount
- 17 Wrinkly, yellowish fruit
- 18 "Dies \_\_\_\_" (hymn)
- 19 Draw a bead on
- 20 Juilliard timing implement
- 22 Autocrats
- 23 Prohibition, for one
- 24 Weightlifting unit
- 25 \_\_\_\_ Nam
- 27 Joining word
- 28 Department store department
- 32 Tell's target
- 35 Frau's mate
- 36 Farm parcel
- 37 "Come Back, Little Sheba" role
- 38 Lay off
- 39 Slenderize
- 40 Equal person
- 41 Load as cargo
- 42 Upbraid
- 43 Mad rush
- 45 Homer's word
- 46 Bivouac
- 47 Word with "vivant"



- or "voyage"
- 48 Fancy neckwear
- 51 Antechambers
- 54 Thing featuring the sands of time
- 57 "The Sacred Wood" author
- 58 Singles
- 59 Pronto

DOWN

- 1 Sea froth

- 2 Author Horatio
- 3 Conference site of 1945
- 4 Cookbook word
- 5 Initiated
- 6 It's "in the bucket"
- 7 Rich soil
- 8 Unrhymed poesy
- 9 Solid and gas

- 10 Where to find time on one's hand?
- 11 "\_\_\_\_ Camera"
- 12 It's south of Va.
- 13 Obtains
- 21 Its capital is Alencon
- 26 Dictator's words
- 27 Dream interruption
- 28 Gettysburg winner
- 29 Reverberation
- 30 Seed jacket
- 31 Rive
- 32 St. Bernards' beat
- 33 Author of 8-Down
- 34 Response to a charge
- 35 Walkman accessory
- 38 Skelton's Kadiddlehopper
- 42 Berlin product
- 44 Spaghetti and macaroni
- 45 Kind of fin
- 47 \_\_\_\_ Vista
- 48 \_\_\_\_ Rathbone
- 49 City on Honshu, in Japan
- 50 Trembling tree
- 51 Multipurpose plant
- 52 Toward shelter
- 53 Some parasites
- 55 "Don't bet \_\_\_\_!"
- 56 Finnish nomad

The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope | Stella Wilder

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — A policy change cannot be avoided, so you must be prepared to make adjustments to suit management.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — You must be ready and willing to practice what you preach. It is unacceptable to ask others to do what you're unwilling to do.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — A scheduling mix-up will complicate your day, but you should be able to anticipate and avoid any serious difficulties.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You may be caught between two conflicting stories. It will be up to you to set the record straight — now and in the days to come.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Your willingness to work harder to capitalize on recent minor errors will serve you well. Reality exceeds expectations.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — You may have to pick up the pace if you wish to come in ahead of the competition. Don't shy away of a new approach.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Pay attention to recent dreams; they are likely to point the way for you. You're more in touch than you think.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — You can have a good time even while you buckle down and fulfill your duties. You enjoy impressing those in charge.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Someone you have to work with closely may be misreading you. Take the time to talk things over honestly — and do it soon.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — You can indulge in a bit of self-aggrandizement without seeming boastful or cocky. You deserve to blow your own horn right now.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — You may benefit from taking a different path today. Improvisation can yield surprising results.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — The opportunity for exploring a fantasy or two may be just around the corner. You can surprise someone special.

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

Live Online

From [washingtonpost.com/liveonline](http://washingtonpost.com/liveonline)

Washington Post staff writer **RENE SANCHEZ** discussed California politics, including the recall vote, Gov. Gray Davis and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Does Schwarzenegger become the front-runner? — Boston, Mass.

It's too early to tell. But probably. He will get huge media coverage, and voters here are furious with traditional politicians. But one caution: Some polls out here this summer suggested that a majority of voters were NOT inclined to vote for him.

If a week before the recall, polls show that Davis is clearly going to lose, could he resign and turn the office over to Lt. Gov. Bustamante? — Rockville, Md.

Yes, he could resign — and then the whole recall ends before it begins. But every indication Davis has given to voters so far is that he will fight this "to the end."

How vicious is Gov. Davis going to be in his recall election ads? Attacking such a loved movie actor may not work as well as attacking prior opponents. — Potomac, Md.

We don't know yet. But a few weeks ago some Democratic officials suggested they were in contact with tabloids about Arnold. And two years ago, when Arnold dropped a hint about running, reporters soon were deluged with faxes from Davis's political team about a Premiere magazine article that called Arnold a womanizer.

Does Schwarzenegger have a serious plan or just a name and money? — Huntington Woods, Mich.

One important thing to keep in mind: Arnold already has a campaign team in place, and nearly every member of it was a top aide to former California Gov. Pete Wilson, who served for two terms and left office in 1998. So Arnold is not just out there on his own.

Today on Live Online:

**11:00 A.M.:** JoAnn V. Pinkerton, director of the Women's Place Midlife Health Center at the University of Virginia, will discuss why some women resume taking hormones despite health risks.



PAUL VITELLO

## Commentary

## Driven to Distraction

**I was driving Wednesday** — eating a peach and thinking about world affairs, wondering what kind of president Jerry Springer would make, doubting whether any president could get peaches to taste like they used to, checking the back seat again (one-handed) for that darned missing relaxation tape — when something on the radio distracted me.

It was a shocking report about distraction.

It said we are very distracted behind the wheel — that while driving our 3,000-pound vehicles through traffic we basically have the attention span of TV-viewers.

We cruise the radio dial, talk on the phone, fix our hair, eat our lunch, balance our checkbooks, breast-feed our babies ...

Well, I have never breast-fed a

In my guts, I know that talking on the phone — of all the dumb things I have done — is the most distracting of all the stupid driver distractions.

baby while driving my car. And in fact, the breast-feeding part was not in this particular report. It was in the newspaper yesterday in Columbus, Ohio, where a 29-year-old woman was charged with child endangerment for breast-feeding her 7-month-old daughter while driving on the Ohio Turnpike.

But it is all part of the same fabric of human folly. The driver's seat of a car has come to be, in our minds, another living space — a place to go to get a little work done, to be alone with one's thoughts, feed the baby, check the messages at work — a place to which one retires between other places, at legal speeds of up to 75 miles an hour.

A quarter of all accidents are caused by driver distraction, according to the American Automobile Association. That is a lot of pain and suffering.

So, this is not meant as a joke,

folks. I have actually decided to clean up my act, recognizing in myself all the symptoms of serial driver-distractedness. I invite you to do the same. First, I will really try to stop eating and drinking while driving. Radio-dial switching, I will have to work up to ...

The study that caught my distracted attention was funded by the American Automobile Association and conducted by some clever researchers who basically conned 70 motorists into allowing them to mount tiny video cameras inside their cars without telling them exactly why.

The report did not single out cell phones as the most distracting of distractions. Instead, it focused on the broader context into which cell-phone use has plopped down upon us: We apparently will do anything to keep from admitting that we're strapped into a car with nothing to do but drive and check mirrors for unforeseen hazards.

In my gut of guts, still, I know that talking on the phone — of all the dumb things I have done — is the most distracting of all the stupid driver distractions. Hand-held, hands-free, no matter. A conversation with another person — even a mechanical conversation — is a dream state that involves conjuring another person, processing a spoken voice, replying in language symbols that are more complex than we give ourselves credit for; and never mind whether deep emotions get into it, which they often do.

But that is another study. I should not be distracted by personal peevishness. I shall instead resolve, while driving, to be cell-free, calorie-free, nevermore to a tie knot or skim the newspaper in traffic jams, or twist open jars of olives and pass them to people in the back seat.

There may be worse things we do in the course of an average day, but few of those are actually dangerous to the lives of fellow human beings.

And no, I did not write this on a laptop on the way to work.

(NEWSDAY)

## MUSIC

## Upstate's Least Wanted

**MARILYN MANSON** will have to sit out the Six Flags Darien Lake stop on the 2003 Ozzfest tour. The amusement park near Buffalo, N.Y., says the shock rocker's act is not appropriate for the venue. Manson, known for his ghastly, cadaverous look and macabre lyrics, is usually considered one of the headliners of the tour, which also includes artists such as Korn, Disturbed, Chevelle and Ozzy Osbourne. Darien Lake is the only venue on the 30-city tour so far to refuse Manson's performance, The Buffalo News reported Wednesday. Being banned from shows is nothing new for Manson, whose suggestive, theatrical stage show has made him the target of religious and conservative groups. (AP)



CHRIS PIZELLO/AP

## POLITICS

## What You Talkin' 'Bout? Coleman Joins Calif. Race

Celebrities are already in the public eye, but some are saying they want to become public servants, too. On Wednesday, **GARY COLEMAN**, the



star of the 1980s sitcom, "Diff'rent Strokes," plunked down \$3,500 in Alameda County and declared himself a candidate for governor of California. Current governor Gray Davis is facing a recall election Oct. 7. The diminutive actor has been in and out of legal trouble since the popular show ended, and was recently on the E! series "Star Dates," where stars and singles mingle with mixed results. (AP)

## FILM

## Parisian Police Learn Not to Butt in on Sharif

Hollywood legend **OMAR SHARIF** was convicted of assaulting a police officer by head-butting him at a casino near Paris and received a



one-month suspended sentence, court officials said Thursday. The 71-year-old Egyptian actor and star of "Doctor Zhivago" was also fined \$1,700 for insults and violence, which reportedly took place while Sharif was playing roulette at the Enghien-les-Bains casino outside Paris, a judicial official told The Associated Press. (AP)



Clay Aiken: Smooth vocalizer

## MUSIC

## Clay Wows 'Em Back Home

**CLAY AIKEN** impressed a sold-out hometown crowd and bathed in an ovation that nearly brought him to tears. The "American Idol" runner-up opened his performance Wednesday with his single "This Is the Night." When it was over, he stood silently for several minutes as the audience screamed. Appearing to tear up, Aiken said, "Thank you so much. There's no place like home." His fans were in awe, too. "Words can't describe it," 15-year-old Sarah Pearce said. (AP)

## CELEBRITY

## Sweet Remembrances Of a Pop Star's Past

**BRITNEY SPEARS**, casting off the remnants of her sweet-as-pie image along with most of her clothes, says she's relieved she didn't settle down with fellow pop star Justin Timberlake. Spears tells British Elle magazine for its September issue that the breakup made her a better artist. She also says she hated seeing Timberlake talk about their relationship and that she's actually quite shy.



On the cover, the 21-year-old singer appears in a seductive pose wearing only a pair of tiny black briefs. "I'll always have feelings for Justin," she says. "He'll always have a special place in my heart. He was my first love after all."

Spears says she realizes now that she wasn't ready to settle down. "Now I think, 'Whoah, that would have been the biggest mistake of my life.'" (AP)

## HEARSAY | HE'S ADVANCED



"He can do his hair in a Mohawk if I put gel in his hand."

— ANGELINA JOLIE

ON HER 2-YEAR-OLD SON MADDUX'S SPECIAL TALENTS

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